AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) Cosmetic composition comprising in a physiologically acceptable medium:

a) porous silica particles having an aspect ratio of at least 2, and

b) an optically active substance incorporated into said porous silica particles, and further comprising a spherical powder;

wherein, upon application of said cosmetic composition to skin, the optically active substance does not directly contact said skin.

2. (Original) Cosmetic composition according to Claim 1 characterized in that the aspect ratio is at least 5.

3. (Previously Presented) Cosmetic composition according to Claim 1 characterized in that said porous silica particles are in the shape of plates or needles.

4. (Previously Presented) Cosmetic composition according to Claim 1 characterized in that the optically active substance is selected from the group consisting of UV-screening substances, fluorescent substances and photochromic substances.

5. (Original) Cosmetic composition according to Claim 4 characterized in that the UV-screening substance is selected from the group consisting of metal oxide particles including particles of titanium oxide, zinc oxide and cerium oxide; derivatives of cinnamate; derivatives of salicylate; p-aminobenzoic acid derivatives; camphor derivatives; benzimidazole derivatives; benzophenone derivatives; dibenzoylmethane

derivatives; diphenylacrylate derivatives; and metal nanoparticles including silver nanoparticles.

6. (Original) Cosmetic composition according to Claim 4 characterized in that the fluorescent substance is selected from the group consisting of derivatives of stilbene and 4,4'-diaminostilbene; derivatives of benzene and biphenyl; derivatives of pyrazines; derivatives of bis(benzoxazol-2-yl); coumarins; carbostyrils; naphthalimides, s-triazines; and pyridotoriazols.

7. (Original) Cosmetic composition according to Claim 4 characterized in that the photochromic substance is selected from spirooxazines and derivatives thereof, naphthopyrane and derivatives thereof; spyropyrans; nitrobenzylpyridines; and a combination of silver nanoparticles and titanium oxide nanoparticles.

8. (Previously Presented) Cosmetic composition according to Claim 1, characterized in that the porous silica particles have an average particle size of 1 to 100 µm.

9. (Previously Presented) Cosmetic composition according to Claim 1, characterized in that the porous silica particles have an average thickness of 100 nm to 5 µm.

10. (Previously Presented) Cosmetic composition according to Claim 1, characterized in that the porous silica particles have an average oil absorbability of 50 to 500 ml/100 g.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) Cosmetic composition according to Claim 1, characterized in that the spherical powder is selected from powders of silica, silica-

based composite oxides, aluminum oxide, titanium oxide, zinc oxide, silicone resins, acrylate-based polymers, polyurethane-based polymers, nylon-12, polyethylene and polystyrene.

13. (Previously Presented) Cosmetic composition according to Claim 1, characterized in that it is in the form of a skin-care product or make-up product.

14. (Currently Amended) Cosmetic additive consisting of an optically active substance incorporated in porous silica particles having an aspect ratio of at least 2, and a spherical powder;

wherein, upon application of said cosmetic composition to skin, the optically active substance does not directly contact said skin.